



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Rickey D. Hart et al.

Serial No.: 09/875,588

Filing Date: 06/06/01

Title: SURGICAL FASTENING SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Julian W. Woo

Attorney's Docket No.: INNO-15 CON 3 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

Mail Stop Amendment

August 16, 2004

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

James A. Sheridan

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

*James A. Sheridan 8/16/04*

(SIGNATURE)

August 16, 2004

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Sir:

AMENDMENT

This is in response to the Official Action currently outstanding with respect to the above-identified patent application.

Please amend the application as follows:

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